

V. I. A. Annual

DEVOTED TO VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT AND TOWN BETTERMENT

VOL. XXXXIII

TYNGSBOROUGH, MASSACHUSETTS

FEBRUARY, 1938



THE OLD PARHAM HOUSE

THE OLD PARHAM HOUSE

The house here pictured was built one hundred and seven years ago by William Parham, a descendant of one of the first two white men to settle on the east side of the Merrimack river in Tyngsborough (or rather Dunstable as it was then called).

Joseph Parham and Joseph Butterfield, both from Chelmsford, purchased land on the east side of the river, Nov. 27, 1711, on which they erected a house near the site of the Jesse Butterfield house which burned about twenty-five years ago. In this house, with their families, both lived for several years.

When William Parham moved farther east to the shores of Lake Mascuppic, the farm was much more extensive than it is now, running down to the shore of the lake and including what are now Lakeview and Mountain Rock.

This brick house was not the first dwelling on the land where it stands. At an earlier date there was a wooden house and the family lived in this while the new one was being erected.

The clay for the bricks of the present house was dug on the farm only a short distance from the dwelling, and the bricks were manufactured there in what has ever since been called the brick yard lot.

John, the ten-year-old son of William Parham, drove the oxen around and around with a little switch, treading the straw into the clay before it was baked into bricks. In those early days the houses always faced the south regardless of where the road was located, and, so with this house the side seen in the picture and away from the highway is the front.

Some believe that at the time of building it was expected the road would be changed and would then run on this side of the house. This seems quite reasonable as the

chaise house was built on this side, and the kitchen on the other next to the road.

In this big old fashioned kitchen was a very large fireplace where some of the cooking was done on the hearth in a tin kitchen. This was a large tin container with one side open. This open side was placed toward the fire and heat thus confined did the cooking. There is also a large brick oven where foods that needed long, slow heat, like baked beans were cooked. The water supply was drawn by a bucket from an open well in the shed.

Originally the house was heated by eight fireplaces, several of which were closed up when stoves came into use. From these fireplaces in winter coals were taken at night and put into a long handled brass warming pan which was passed over the bedding to warm it at bed time.

On Sunday some of the coals were placed in the footstove, a little tin box in a wooden frame (which is still in the attic) and carried to church where the congregation sat through a long service in an unheated building.

Great changes have taken place, both outside and in, during the life of the house.

In the early days the passenger pigeons came in great flocks, the wild ducks and geese swam in the lake, and sometimes an eagle was seen in the vicinity.

The people rode in a chaise, then came the carryall, the electric car and now the automobile.

The house was first lighted by candles dipped or molded by the family, then whale oil lamps were used, and now electricity.

Who can tell what is yet to come?

M. A. Q.

V. I. A. Annual

Published each year by the
TYNGSBOROUGH VILLAGE IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

VOL. XXXXIII

FEBRUARY, 1938

OFFICERS OF THE V. I. A.

Malcolm Parrish, President
Chester H. Queen, First Vice-President
Bertrand Currier, Second Vice-President
Jennie R. K. Hodgman, Clerk and Corresponding Secretary
Roscoe C. Turner, Treasurer
Raymond Sherburne, Auditor

Executive Committee

Mr. Edward Wilkins	1938	Mrs. Edward Wilkins	1938
Mr. Arthur Wilbur	1939	Mrs. Arthur Wilbur	1939
Mr. Leo Flanagan	1940	Mrs. Leo Flanagan	1940

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE VILLAGE
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION FOR
THE YEAR ENDING NOVEMBER 12, 1937

The Annual Banquet and Business Meeting was held in the Tyngsborough Town Hall on Friday, November 12th, 1937. There was a large attendance of members and friends.

At seven o'clock P. M. a delicious turkey dinner was served under the direction of Mrs. Edward Wilkins, assisted by Mr. and Mrs. Theodore Boucher, Mrs. Alfred McCordick and Glenn Wilbur.

The dining room was in charge of Miss Eleanor Sherburne, with the following assistants: Miss Phyllis Currier, Miss Helen Woodward, Miss Myrla Wilbur, Miss Rita Boucher, Frank Cobleigh, Jr. and Russell Sherburne, all dressed in white.

The dining hall and tables were attractively decorated with pine twigs and black alder twigs and berries. At the head table there was an interesting centerpiece representing a miniature community centre, showing stores and other commercial features with attractive landscaping. This was made by Mrs. Boucher.

On this table also, was a large bouquet of pink carnations and chrysanthemums in memory of Mr. Reuben B. Sherburne, a life-long member of the Association. He was a member of the Executive Committee from November, 1897 to November, 1900 and again from 1906 to 1908. Served as President from November, 1908 to November, 1909, Auditor 1911 to 1914 and First Vice-President from 1914 until the time of his passing on in February, 1937. He was a great loss to the V. I. A. and to the whole community and will be sadly missed. It was voted that a page in the record book be dedicated to his memory.

After the dinner the president, Mr. Perley E. Knight, called the meeting to order and the reports of the secretary, treasurer, auditor and executive committee were read and accepted. The chairman of the executive committee reported that three business meetings had been held during the year. The spring and fall "Clean-up Days" had been

observed. The Fair and Entertainment held March 4th and 5th was very successful and the V. I. A. Annual published as usual. Mr. Parrish also extended thanks and appreciation to the officers, members and friends of the V. I. A. who helped make the fair a success.

This report was read by Mrs. Malcolm Parrish as Mr. Parrish was unable to be present.

The nominating committee, Mrs. Roscoe Turner, Miss Grace Henderson and Mr. Carl Richmond, appointed by the president, brought in names of the following people to serve as officers for the ensuing year:

President, Mr. Malcolm Parrish.

First Vice-President, Mr. Chester H. Queen.

Second Vice-President, Mr. Bertrand Currier.

Clerk and Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Jennie R. K. Hodgman.

Treasurer, Mr. Roscoe C. Turner.

Auditor, Mr. Raymond Sherburne.

Executive Committee for three years, Mr. and Mrs. Leo Flanagan.

The clerk was instructed to cast one ballot for the officers named. This was done and they were declared elected.

The other members of the executive committee are: Mr. and Mrs. Edward Wilkins and Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wilbur.

Following the business meeting the president introduced the speaker of the evening, Rev. Floyd J. Taylor, pastor of the First Parish church, who gave a most interesting talk, speaking from his own extensive experience as a salesman before he became a minister. He urged the organization to improve not only the physical aspects of the town but the morale of the people as well.

Rev. Kenneth Martin, pastor of the Evangelical church responded with a plea for co-operation in reaching this ideal.

The meeting was then adjourned.

CATHERINE W. LAMBERT,
Clerk protem.

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

A Special Meeting of the Village Improvement Association was held at the home of Mrs. Edward Wilkins on December 17, 1937, to see if the V. I. A. would donate a sum of money for the purchase of a turkey for the "Free Christmas Dinner" to be served in the lower town hall on December 25, 1937, and to transact any other business that might legally come before said meeting.

The meeting was called to order by the president, Mr. Malcolm Parrish and it was voted to donate Four Dollars (\$4.00) for the turkey, and One Dollar (\$1.00) for a roll of table paper. It was also voted to have one hundred copies of the V. I. A. By-Laws printed and turned over to the clerk for distribution; Mrs. Edward Wilkins, chairman of the executive committee to attend to same.

The matter of having the ruins of the "Bennett house" fire cleaned up was discussed and Mr. Malcolm Parrish was appointed a committee of one to attend to this.

The meeting then adjourned.

JENNIE R. K. HODGMAN,
Clerk.

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Lumber and Wood

Also Manufacturers of PURE CIDER and CIDER VINEGAR

Telephone Tyngsborough 106

TREASURER'S REPORT

Treasurer's report of the Tyngsboro Village Improvement Association for the year ending November 7, 1937.

RECEIPTS

Cash balance Nov. 7, 1936	\$422.38
Membership Dues	32.00
Receipts from Supper—Annual Meeting	29.04
Ad from V. I. A. paper previous year	3.00
Receipts from Fair, March 4th & 5th, 1937:	
Door	\$62.30
Dancing	9.10
Children's Table	24.55
Candy Table	23.15
Fancy Table	17.40
Ice Cream Table	9.20
Flower Table	1.50
Supper (2 nights)	42.45
	<hr/>
	\$189.65
Ads 1937 Paper	81.00
Interest on deposits	5.71
	<hr/>
	\$762.48

EXPENDITURES

Annual Meeting:	
Paid for Supper Supplies	\$27.12
Washing dishes	4.00
Advertising	1.13
	<hr/>
	\$ 32.25
Annual Fair, March 4 & 5, 1937:	
Supper:	
Catering (2 nights)	\$10.00
Washing dishes	6.00
Coburn Poultry Farm	14.72
Dunlap's Market	16.17
Friend Bros	3.20
P. E. Knight	1.70
Perham & Queen	19.10
Hood & Son	2.70
Napkins50
	<hr/>
	\$ 74.09
Orchestra, 1 night	\$15.00
Singing, 1 night	5.00
Play	5.75
Tickets	3.00
Decorations	6.90
Ice Cream Table	8.10
Signs	2.00
Advertising	10.63
	<hr/>
	\$130.47
Catering for Fair in 1936	10.00
Flowers	1.50
Picken Printing Co.—V. I. A. Annual 1937	97.00
Picken Printing Co.—Halftone	6.00
Spring Clean-up Day	16.00
Fall Clean-up Day	16.00
Postage	1.00
	<hr/>
Total payments	\$310.22
Cash Balance Nov. 7, 1937	452.56
	<hr/>
	\$762.48

All known bills are paid. About \$40.00 is due for advertising in 1937 V. I. A. Annual Paper.

Respectfully submitted,

ROSCOE C. TURNER,
Treasurer.

AUDITOR'S STATEMENT

Nov. 10, 1937.

I have examined the foregoing account and find it correct and the cash balance as stated.

RAYMOND W. SHERBURNE,
Auditor.

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Ruth Boucher, Prop.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS, 1937

JAN.

15 Emery L. Dupras, Jr.....Emery L. and Cecile M.
(Tousignant)

FEB.

2 Freida Alice MacLeod, Everett and Dorothy (Brassard)

MAR.

8 Barbara Louise Lambert....Richard Holland and Irene
Florence (Gilbert)

APRIL

2 ——— NewmanFrank J. and Muriel E.
(Francis)

30 Stillborn.

MAY

16 Roberta Rae Roberts Harold C. and Lillian M.
(Dupras)

JULY

7 Marietta Maddox Greene Howard Y. and Angelyn
(Hoogerhyde)

20 ——— Barlow Leo J. and Cecile F.
(Belanger)

23 Arlene Louise Pelletier Leo Gilbert and Vivian
Adeline (Holt)

25 ——— Tully Brendon and Rita (Flynn)

31 Theresa Cecile Cabana Arthur W. and Maria B.
(Tardif)

AUG.

5 Eunice Fern Trainor Willis C. and Mildred F.
(MacKenzie)

6 Sandra Alice Bergeron Adelard G. and Mildred C.
(Shaw)

28 Richard Arthur Watson Thomas W. W. and Ethel
(Brown)

SEPT.

9 Arthur Jon Constantine Guy and Ruth B.
(Stevens)

13 June Virginia Cumming Arthur Allen and Bernice
May (Lagay)

OCT.

13 Barbara June Robinson Oliver and Catherine E.
(Barry)

31 Beverly Romaine Boucher Edward J. and Madeline
M. (Carter)

NOV.

14 Constance Viola Albert Edgar Joseph and Viola
Lillian (Desmarais)

16 Carole Gloria Hodgdon Ivan Leroy and Iola
Florence (Holt)

DEC.

11 Charles Frederick Farrow Wilbur C. and Helen
M. (Bell)

12 Howard Earl Rich, Jr. Howard Earl and Lillian
Betsey (Lynch)

30 ——— Martel Joseph and Nellie (Cass)

31 Marilyn Dell Guild Curtis Arthur and Marion
(Akins)

TOURIST REST

Picnic Grounds with Tables

Groceries, Ice Cream and Tonic

K. M. Cahoon, Prop.

Tyngsboro, Mass.

DUNLAP'S MARKET

HIGH GRADE MEATS AND GROCERIES

at Reasonable Prices

MARRIAGES, 1937

Jan. 3 Walter Brooks and Pearl C. Wyman
Jan. 23 Arthur L. Provencal and Hazel Etta Willey
Feb. 20 Amedee J. Lizotte and Alberta Mitchell
Feb. 25 Albert Roland Signor and Marion Vivian Delano
Mar. 4 Leo Morrisette and Rose Gagnon
Mar. 7 Andrew Farland and Arline Schofield
Mar. 20 Charles Frederick Baubeau and Beatrice V. Coderre
Mar. 21 Stanslaw Konieczny and Madalyn C. Hodgdon
Mar. 27 Clarence Albert Carkin and Mabel Margaret
Porter

Apr. 3 Frederick Watson and Ruby Stark
Apr. 9 George E. Brown and Eva Smith
Apr. 9 Albert Ingraham and Dorothy Mae Waldo
Apr. 23 Francis S. Coles and Doris E. Gates
May 8 Linwood A. Seraverns and Julia Sarcola
May 14 William Joseph Wyskiel and Blanche May Kiar
June 5 Francis Benjamin S. Blaine and Stephania
Krystolpowicz

June 5 Robert G. Duff and June Virginia Farrow
June 6 Joseph Ziarko and Marjorie Glover
June 16 Charles L. Steele and Amelia Annie Martin
June 16 George V. Baker and Ethel Bruce Schult
June 19 Antonio J. Boisjolly and Isabelle St. Cyr
June 22 John Oliver Ekstrom and Hazel Annie Durrell
July 3 Elbert A. Haley and Dorothy F. Putnam
July 5 William T. Dixon and Lily Gaunt
July 23 Clayton B. Ross and Marjorie H. Clark
July 26 Joseph N. Hebert and Marjorie Fisher
July 30 Joseph P. McNamara and Evelyn A. Forest
Aug. 7 Emil Morneau and Rita Gaillae
Aug. 8 Earl T. Barnett and Dorothy Sullivan
Aug. 14 Clyde Batchelder and Pauline Gilmartin
Aug. 24 Clarke J. Temant and Christine E. Richard
Aug. 27 Franklin Davis and Julia Seraichnick
Sept. 26 Roland Faucher and Bertha Mores
Oct. 8 Tony Passalacqua and Florence Snay
Oct. 10 Laurence Reid and Marie Elsie Brown
Oct. 16 Elmer Sawyer Ingalls and Elizabeth Parrish Keyes
Oct. 22 Leonard F. Mason and Dorothy R. Fox
Oct. 26 Melvin W. Cass and Belle McCaffrey Dow
Oct. 29 Rollin Brown and Anna Kamenecki
Nov. 10 Malcolm MacLeod and Charlotte Hyde
Nov. 25 Eugene J. Vezina and Rita M. Chaisson
Dec. 5 Raymond Menard and Eunice M. Roy
Dec. 31 David Cohen and Mollie Thall
Dec. 31 William Crystal and Charlotte Cohen
Dec. 31 Benjamin W. Signor, Jr. and Mary E. Kirby

DEATHS, 1937

Date	Name	Yrs.	Age	Mos.	Days
Jan. 22	Matilda R. Trubey	81	9	—	18
Feb. 6	Blanche Martin Gibson	64	—	—	—
Feb. 17	William W. Sanford	17	—	—	1
Feb. 22	Reuben B. Sherburne	79	9	—	9
Apr. 6	John E. Trubey	82	—	—	5
Apr. 30	Stillborn	—	—	—	—
Apr. 17	Herbert Frank Shipley	49	6	—	28
May 23	Laurence Reed	30	7	—	12
May 30	Augusta Ekstrom	75	9	—	30
June 1	Tena Spaulding	69	11	—	23
July 5	William S. Douglas	74	—	—	11
July 11	Marion W. Hovey	60	1	—	20
July 29	Elmer Flanders	48	—	—	—
Aug. 16	George A. Dunlap	69	—	—	—
Sept. 7	Josiah Frank Butters	83	3	—	19
Oct. 19	Howard Warren Sherburne	18	11	—	—
Nov. 15	Ernest H. Clifford	72	11	—	4
Dec. 8	Lizzie Pierce Curtis	88	8	—	9
Dec. 12	Abraham Lincoln Riddick	76	10	—	6
Dec. 30	Edward Boucher, Jr.	1	6	—	—

GEORGE R. ROBESON,
Town Clerk.

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ALLEYS

Joe Ryan, Prop.

Tel. Conn.

THE PARENT-TEACHER ASSOCIATION

Under the able leadership of the president, Mrs. Arthur Wilbur, the Parent-Teacher Association has presented some splendid programs during the past year.

In March of 1937, Miss Marie Wells, a speaker from the Extension Service, gave some valuable suggestions on "Child Guidance." At the May meeting the usual exhibition of school work was on display, including a style show by pupils of the sewing classes, wearing garments made under the direction of their instructor, Miss Lena Coburn. The joint meeting with the local Grange was held in September, with an entertainment of moving pictures in color taken by Mr. Frank McKittrick on his recent tour through Europe, and a film of scenes of the coronation of George VI. of England.

An excellent attendance was recorded at both the November and January meetings. The program in November was presented by the members and friends from the east side of the river with Mrs. Leo F. Flanagan in charge. Musical numbers by pupils and members of the alumni of the school added much of interest.

At the January meeting, the program was in charge of the Woods Corner group directed by Mrs. Perley Knight. Musical selections, tap dancing, and an interesting talk by Mrs. Kenneth Martin on "Exploring with the Child" provided both an entertaining and helpful program.

On both occasions refreshments were served. This feature has added much to the social hour, and is made possible as the school has been supplied with a fine electric plate presented by this association. As there have never been any facilities at the school for providing hot water for any emergency, this gift is greatly appreciated.

A program of moving pictures, to be given by the Proctor Lumber Company, is scheduled for the evening of March 10th.

On February 9th, a telephone bridge party was held, the proceeds of which are to be used to carry on the work of the association.

The large attendance and renewed interest shown at the recent meetings is very gratifying, for no better means for developing a clearer understanding of the individual child is known than a fine co-operation of the home and the school. The good work has made an excellent start. If you are still on the outside, become one of us and help to carry on.

G. H. H.

TROOP 1, TYNGSBORO BOY SCOUTS

Troop 1, Tyngsboro, meets every Monday evening in the Town Hall, at 7 o'clock.

18 Scouts are registered and are advancing in their Scout work.

CARLOS W. DUNNING,
Scoutmaster.

BIRD STUDY IN THE WINSLOW SCHOOL

Another successful season of nature study for 1937 has been carried out in the Winslow school, sponsored by the local Grange and assisted by parents, teachers and other friends. The children retain all their enthusiasm for the making of lists of identified birds, erecting bird homes and other seasonal requirements. The field walks allowed the sixth, seventh and eighth grades are much appreciated by the children and are a real incentive for advancement into the upper grades. As in other years we enjoyed the leadership of Mr. E. R. Davis of Leominster, well known as a bird authority, while leaders of our own town gave freely of their time to help in these walks. One of the high lights of the season was the State Grange Bird Day, held in town on May 22. Field walks were held in the morning which many of our school children attended. Visitors from other towns were loud in praises, not only of the interest and knowledge which these children showed but also of their quiet and courteous behavior during these walks and the following exercises. During the season prizes were awarded for sixty-eight bird houses occupied by nesting birds.

For the essay work of the eighth grade the first prize was awarded to Margaret Coburn; the second to Warren Nolet and the third to Joseph Pelletier. The essay winning first prize is printed on another page of this paper.

F. L. S.

THE INDUSTRIOUS CLUB

The organization is as follows: President, Mrs. Charles E. Haley; Vice-President, Mrs. James H. Woodward; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Ethel M. Sargent.

All day meetings are held at the homes of the members the second Thursday of the month.

We had our annual trip to Salem Willows and enjoyed a fish dinner.

We donated some money for the Community Chest, also sent a Christmas basket.

This winter and spring, through the Extension Service we are having four lectures in the Town Hall, which we hope every one who can will turn out, the subjects are as follows:

- I. Money and Life at Its Best.....Feb. 11, 1938
 - II. How to Acquire Savings and Security,
March 9, 1938
 - III. Wise Spending by the Family.....April 13, 1938
 - IV. Family Fun with a Few Dollars....April 27, 1938
- All meetings are at 7.45 P. M.

The Club welcomes visitors or new members at any time.

L. A. H.



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TYNGSBOROUGH GRANGE No. 222, P. OF H.

With the open Bible upon our altar, and the United States flag at the right of the Master's station, Tyngsborough Grange bids you welcome.

In the Grange you find amusement, education and sympathy. We invite everyone to join in our programs and help make them bigger and better.

There has just past a very successful and interesting year. Among the outstanding programs was an anniversary night, bringing back many charter members of the Tyngsborough Grange and their experiences 38 years ago.

Also in May we had State Bird Day with speakers from all over the State, with colored pictures and planting of a tree on our Library lawn in memory of Mrs. E. O. Marshall, a member of the State Bird Committee for 25 years.

No small mention should be made of our own Mrs. Francena Sherburne and the untiring work with children in which the Grange helps each year.

In the early evening during July we journeyed to Willard Brook State reservation and made coffee over an open fire, the pot swung on a hand-made crane.

The autumn brought a flower show with interest on every hand. In conjunction with the State there were many prizes awarded adults and children.

When school opened in the Fall the P. T. A. and Grange entertained the teachers, and the pastors with their wives.

The Boy Scouts were our guests in November. Visiting Scouts entertained, and were entertained by our own Scouts.

Tyngsborough is proud of the lighted tree during the Christmas season, showing its part in community work.

Month by month we present programs to show the Grange, an organization of friendliness to all who join us.

M. A. R.

PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE V. I. A.

It was in 1890, that Rev. James Danforth and Mr. Albert A. Flint fell to talking about the many inconveniences which hampered existence in the centre of the town, and from that talk came Mr. Danforth's invitation to a meeting which was held at his home on October 22 of that year.

Those present were Mr. Danforth, Channing Whitaker, Albert A. Flint, Andrew P. Hadley, Asa M. Swain, George O. Perham, Sumner Woodward and Louville Curtis.

The matter of forming a Village Improvement Association was discussed and it was decided to sense the feeling of the villagers on the subject. Messrs. Whitaker, Wm. Blanchard and Swain were appointed a committee to draft a constitution.

It was voted to put in order, what street-lamps there were in the village, and to engage Isaiah Davis, for a week to light them.

On November 5, 1890, a meeting was held at the home of Mr. A. P. Hadley, when it was voted to purchase sixteen lamps.

On December 22, 1890, the Village Improvement Association was fairly launched from the residence of George O. Perham with the following officers:

President, Louville Curtis; Vice-Presidents, Jesse B. Butterfield and Andrew P. Hadley; Clerk, William Blanchard; Treasurer, James Danforth; Corresponding Secretary, Channing Whitaker; Executive Committee, Louville Curtis, Albert Flint, Daniel Lawrence, Mrs. G. O. Perham and Mrs. Joseph Bennett.

The constitution had been signed by 201 people. Following is a list of subsequent Presidents:

1891-1893, Louville Curtis; 1894-1895, Dr. G. A. Harlow; 1896-1903, Rev. James Danforth; 1904-1905, Jesse B. Butterfield; 1906, Rev. James Danforth; 1907, Dr. G. A. Harlow; 1908, Harry L. Littlehale; 1909, Reuben B. Sherburne; 1910, Duncan Campbell; 1911, Charles P. Littlehale; 1912, Dr. F. D. Lambert; 1913, Frederick A. Coburn; 1914, Albert A. Flint; 1915, Arthur R. Marshall; 1916, George R. Robeson; 1917, Homer A. Noble; 1918, Dr. F. D. Lambert; 1919, Raymond W. Sherburne; 1920, Fred L. Snow; 1921, Herbert C. Hodgman; 1922-'23, Roscoe C. Turner; 1924-'25, Carlos W. Dunning; 1926, Joseph A. Pelletier; 1927, Healon E. Symonds; 1928, Ralph S. Harlow; 1929, Charles H. Coburn; 1930, Charles E. Haley; 1931, Norman R. Sherburne; 1932, Adolph Ekstrom; 1933, James H. Woodward; 1934, Fred L. Snow; 1935, Charles J. Allgrove; 1936, Harold G. Dunlap; 1937, Perley E. Knight; 1938, Malcolm F. Parrish

J. R. K. H.

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WINSLOW SCHOOL PRIZE ESSAY, JUNE, 1937

BIRD BANDING

By Margaret A. Coburn

When the first warm day of spring arrives, people begin to look for the green grass, the flowers, the leaves unfolding on the trees, and the birds that return here to make this their summer home. Every day birds such as the bluebird and the wren are making their homes in the man-made houses put up to attract them. More people are becoming interested in birds every day. Some go on bird walks in the spring because then the colors of the birds are most beautiful and their songs are the sweetest. Other people use the summertime to make a study of the different places birds choose for their nests and the strange kinds of nests they build. But to many people the most interesting thing of all is the migration of the birds. Seeing flocks of birds on their way south, passing over your home or alighting on nearby trees, have you ever wondered where they are going? People in Europe wondered this as early as 1710 and started to band the birds to find out. But the first banding in this country was done by Audubon, who placed silver cords about the legs of some pheobes nesting in a cave near his home.

After Audubon had pioneered in bird banding, it gradually became a thing of national interest. Perhaps you wonder just why this banding is done. Audubon banded the pheobes to find out if they came back to the same nesting places, but as more people became interested in birds they became curious as to what route the birds take in migrating, where they stay for the winter, if they take the same mates, and how long they live. For a long time the bobolink that was killed in the south because it destroyed the crops, was protected in the north because it did not look like the same bird at all. When men began to band the birds it was found out that this bird changes its feathers for the different seasons.

In most parts of our country there is at least one banding station for a territory. Most of the stations, however, are located south of the Great Lakes as far as Kentucky and along the Atlantic coast from New Jersey to Delaware.

Last year at Merrymeeting Bay, Maine, a banding station was started by the United States biological society for the banding of Canada geese. This year nearly 200 of these geese were banded. The geese were very confused when they were first caught in the traps, but once inside they seemed to realize the uselessness of struggling and were very quiet while their bands were being put on. Even after they were released they still seemed bewildered and some of them had to be chased by a dog before they would leave the ground. By the banding of these geese the biological society hopes to find what route these birds follow in migrating. Two ideas have been formed in regard to this. Some think that the birds follow the Atlantic coast keeping about 20 miles off shore; others think that these geese have a main course down through the central states. As yet neither of these theories has been confirmed because none of the birds banded last year were reported.

To band the birds, they must first be trapped. For

this purpose there are wire traps which have a small opening at the bottom through which the bird enters. These traps vary in size from about two feet square to as big as seven or eight feet in height. The birds are attracted to the traps by the feed, but it has been found that, unless the trap is placed in a suitable place they will not go near it and in some cases just moving it a few feet will attract the birds to it. Another thing one has to be careful of in trapping the birds is to get the right kind of bait, for of course the trap cannot seem inviting to them if they do not want the bait. In one station when the people wanted to band woodpeckers, they could not catch them until a trap was put into a tree and apple skins used as bait. These traps must be guarded carefully against cats and against a still more dangerous enemy, the little shrike or butcher bird. These shrikes are so like the mocking birds of the south that some people have let them walk into the trap and so endangered the little birds within. The birds are often recaptured, which proves that they do not fear the traps. When the birds are imprisoned in the traps an attendant comes around and catches the birds in a net to band them. To band these birds, one must have a license. To get experience to qualify for a license, one must first be a helper to someone who already has a license. When the banding of terns is done, they catch the baby terns and band them. Much of the banding of these birds is done on Tern Island, a sanctuary just off the coast of Cape Cod. An interesting thing about the banding of the little terns is that the mothers of the birds get very disturbed and try to peck the people who are banding their birds. Although these little birds are just caught as they run along on the beach, most bird banding is done in the regular way with traps. After the bander has taken the bird from the trap he turns it on its back for this seems to hypnotize the bird and it lies very still while the small aluminum band is being slipped on his leg. There are different sizes of the bands; a very small size for birds like the warbler, a medium one for larger birds, and a big one for birds like the heron and eagle. After the bird is banded the bander makes a record of it, writing to the government the numbers of the band, where the banding station is, and the kind of bird he has banded. The government files all this information and when somebody finds a banded bird they can tell him all about it. This banding does not harm the birds if done by an experienced and careful person and the birds are not in the least alarmed at being banded. Records show birds returning to banding stations 30 or 35 times within a few months.

Some interesting things have been learned by bird banding; one is that the wild geese always take the same mates while some other birds like the wren do not. By the banding of terns it has been found that the Arctic tern flies the farthest of any known bird. This beautiful bird with its long pointed wings can fly from the Arctic Circle to the Antarctic Circle. American birds, possibly blown off their course, have been found on islands in the North Sea and in England, although no banded birds have been taken in Europe. One banded tern has been taken in Africa, however, by a negro who gave it to an American missionary.

Bird banding is giving to man an intimate knowledge of bird life and habits. It is proving its value at the present time and we hope that in later years it will be of service to all mankind.

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NORTH CHELMSFORD

MASSACHUSETTS

THE TYNGSBORO SPORTSMAN CLUB

The Tyngsboro Sportsman Club has had a busy year, meetings have been held on the first Wednesday of every month. There has been a good attendance at these meetings that make the future for this club look very promising.

The object of this club is to bring together men who are interested in Hunting, Fishing, Rifle and Skeet shooting, dog fanciers and all good sports.

The annual field trials last year were postponed owing to a misunderstanding in the ownership of the club name.

The recently completed game contest was a great success. Every member did his best to gain scores for his team. Team B with Edward Clement, captain, had at the final scoring a slight edge on Team A with John C. Murray, captain.

A supper was served to Team B by Team A. Everyone enjoyed the supper and entertainment that followed. Mr. Arthur Wilbur gave a very interesting talk on his recent wild boar hunt, held at the Blue Forest Mountain Reservation in New Hampshire. There are twenty-five members who support the reservation. Mr. Wilbur was a guest of one of the members.

The wild boar which was imported a number of years ago from Russia and the black forest in Germany, have increased in number to a present estimate of two thousand. They run wild in the reservation of forty square miles all fenced in. In the winter the boar gathers a pile of hay and crawls under it. They are very sensitive, with a keen scent which makes them very difficult to approach, also very dangerous when wounded. A grown boar will weigh from one to two hundred pounds.

There are also a large number of deer and elk. These game animals are fed during hard winters.

There has been a marked increase in membership lately which is very encouraging.

There is a fishing contest under way, the lucky nimrod to be given a fishing rod. Teams are being picked and there is a growing interest in this contest.

The officers elected for the coming year are as follows: President, John C. Murray; Vice-President, James Adams; Secretary, Arthur Wilbur.

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 Margaret Winthrop—his wife Phyllis Currier
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 Sam Bryant—a chauffeur James Fuhrman
 Edna Powell—a maid Barbara Schulte
 Mrs. Fraser—a friend of Sam Eva Jordan
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Time. The present.

Act I. A morning in summer.

Act II. Later the same day.

Act III. Still later in the same day.

Directed by Mrs. Vera Livermore and
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Harry L. Littlehale

Notary Public

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TYNGSBOROUGH GIRL SCOUTS

Registered Captain, Doris L. Rigby. Acting Captain, Eleanor Sherburne. Lieutenants, Helen Woodward, Irene Mitchell. Honorary Scout, Mary E. Hayes. Second Class, Avis Bell, Mary Boucher, Louise Clarke, Dorothy Cobleigh, Gladys Cobleigh, Margaret Coburn, Blanche Hunter, Rita LeBlanc, Ruth Russon, Esther Sherburne.

Tenderfoot—Pauline Bechard, Edith Brake, Helen Clay, Muriel Cobleigh, Jacqueline Farrow, Doris Hankinson, Eleanor Lovett, Ruby Marinell, Eleanor Parrish, Norma Ralls, Juanita Sargent, Constance Sherburne, Marion Sherburne, Miriam Wilkins.

Miss A. Catherine Collier, former Captain of the Girl Scout Troop, found it necessary to give up her work with the Scouts, as her new position took her out of town. She was a valuable leader and did many things to make the troop interesting. It is with regret that we accept her resignation.

The Scout meetings began last October and have been held regularly each Monday afternoon at the Town Hall. We began the season with 18 registered Scouts and with the enrollment of six new ones we have, at the present time, 24 Scouts. The new Scouts who were invested this year are: Pauline Bechard, Muriel Cobleigh, Doris Hankinson, Eleanor Lovett, Norma Ralls and Constance Sherburne.

Lieutenant Doris L. Rigby has trained these girls in their tenderfoot test and now has them well started toward their second class.

Mrs. F. D. Lambert has very willingly given her time to help the older girls with their map making and she is now teaching a second class nature group.

Lieutenant Helen Woodward, who is now unable to attend the meetings due to her work, also aided in the map making and tenderfoot classes.

Another group is working on the child nurse merit badge under the direction of Mrs. Raymond W. Sherburne.

We have been on one hike this year and plans are being made for others when the weather is suitable. It is on hikes that the girls have a splendid chance to pass their trailmaking, firebuilding and nature studies.

In the fall a large number of the Scouts attended the annual Rally at Liberty Hall, Lowell, where they received their merit badges. They also enjoyed moving pictures of the Silver Jubilee which was held at Plymouth, Massachusetts, last summer. Lieut. Helen Woodward was fortunate in being chosen to attend this International group where she met Girl Scouts and Girl Guides from many foreign countries. At the Rally she gave us a brief description of each of the foreign girls.

Miss Cecil Brown, the new Field Captain of Greater Lowell, visited the troop and offered several good suggestions.

At Thanksgiving time the Scouts filled two baskets which were sent to families who appreciated them very much. At Christmas time toys were collected by the troop and sent to the Community Tree in the Town Hall. The girls enjoyed making several scrap-books which were taken to one of the hospitals in Lowell.

At this time we wish to thank the Troop Committee for all they have done for us throughout the past year to help make our troop a success.

The use of the Town Hall is greatly appreciated by the Scouts and the leaders, for which we thank the townspeople.

ELEANOR SHERBURNE, Acting Captain.

DORIS L. RIGBY, Registered Captain.

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NECROLOGY

Reuben Butterfield Sherburne was born on May 13, 1857 in the "old house" on the Sherburne farm, now owned by Mr. Spindell. He came from pioneer stock. His mother was Rhoda Griffin. Her ancestors were of Welsh origin and went back to Mathew Griffin who appears to have come to Concord, Mass., in 1635 and who certainly lived and raised a large family in Charlestown. His father, William Sherburne, was descended from Sergeant John Sherburne who, during the troubled reign of Charles I. emigrated from Lancashire, England, to Portsmouth Plains, N. H. in 1640. After four generations James removed his family to Pelham, N. H. to the farm, which has been in the family ever since, now occupied by Ernest G. Sherburne. This James was the great-great grandfather of Reuben B. Sherburne.

He began school life at the age of three, attending No. 7 District School which stood on the opposite side of Sherburne Avenue from the Bird Sanctuary. When ready for more advanced schooling he crossed the river by ferry or on ice to attend the Winslow School then located in the present Town Hall building. More than once he crossed on ice in the morning to find it gone or unpassable in the afternoon. He attended Business School in Lowell and worked for a time in the Lowell Machine Shop. Soon afterward, however, he learned telegraphy and became operator and station agent at the local Boston & Maine depot.

In 1880 he married Miss Ella J. Blodgett of the west side of the town.

Always greatly interested in town affairs he held several town offices at various times. He was a member of the school committee that brought the modern graded school system into operation in town doing away with many small district schools.

He was a member of the V. I. A. from the beginning of the organization and served on the executive committee, as president in 1908-'09, as auditor 1911 to 1914 and then as vice-president from 1914 until his death.

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TYNGSBORO COMMUNITY CLUB

The Tyngsboro Community Club held its annual meeting March 8, 1937, in the lower Town Hall, and elected the officers for the year as follows: President, Warren W. Allgrove; Vice-President, Howard Sherburne; Secretary, Christina Clark; Treasurer, Helen Woodward; Financial Secretary, Eleanor Sherburne. The club then gave a vote of appreciation to the retiring President, Harold J. Davis, on behalf of his work in organizing and promoting the interests of the club in the past two years.

Through the efforts of Manager Ernest Wilkins, the younger athletic element of the Town formed the "Terrior Jrs." This snappy junior baseball club not only gave a good account of itself, in competition with the nearby towns, but also showed to advantage in the Gorham Jr. Twi League of Lowell. Manager Wilkins was greatly assisted in this splendid recreational work by George Bell and Arthur Cummings.

The interest in our tennis program was revived by Miss Irene Mitchell, who personally supervised the reconditioning of the courts. It was only through Miss Mitchell's untiring enthusiasm and effort, that the playing surface remained in excellent condition during the summer months. It is expected that the playing surface will be an improvement this spring, as it has received the benefit of last year's care.

At the Tyngsboro Town Hall on December 29, the club sponsored a Mid-Winter Dance and Social, which taxed the capacity of the hall to the utmost, as members and friends joined in the Holiday Spirit to make it an outstanding social event of the year. No little credit for its success should be extended to Esther Wilkins, Frances Clark, Eleanor Sherburne, Myrla Wilbur and Helen Woodward, who composed the committee on decorations and advertising. So many requests have been received to have this social continued as an annual affair that plans to that effect are already in progress.

Although the Community Club was organized and established primarily upon recreational principles, it did contribute to and consider, the Christmas Dinner Fund for the Needy, as one worthy of recognition.

WARREN W. ALLGROVE.

COMMUNITY DINNER

The Community Dinner and Christmas tree of 1937, is one long to be remembered. For the years 1935-1936 the Franco-American Club of Tyngsboro has given this dinner from their own funds, but unable to do so this last year help was called for from the various organizations and townspeople.

Tyngsboro is very fortunate in having organizations that were so co-operative in time of need.

With the help of the Sportsman Club, firemen, V. I. A., Mothers' Club, Grange, Community Club, Bowling League, Franco-American Naturalization Club and The Roxey, Mr. and Mrs. Cohen, much credit is due for the delicious turkey dinner with all the fixings that was served to 69 that attended, and 17 dinners that were sent to those unable to attend.

At 2 P. M. Santa Claus arrived with a toy for each child, thanks to the teachers of the Winslow school and townsfolks for the toys that were sent to him. Ice cream and cake were served to all before the departure for home.

The following committee was in charge of the dinner: Theodore Boucher, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Goodchild, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Cabana, and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Peters.

Transportation was under the direction of Mr. Al Dingle.

Once again I will extend thanks to Tyngsboro's organizations, teachers, townspeople and business places for their generous help towards this dinner.

RUTH BOUCHER,
General Chairman.

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